



**SUPPLEMENTARY  
PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number

under Rule 62a and/or 63 of the European Patent Convention.  
This report shall be considered, for the purposes of  
subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

EP 09 82 8119

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 6 698 631 B1 (HASKINS DAVID) 2 March 2004 (2004-03-02) * column 3, line 60 - column 5, line 14 * * figures 1-4 *	1-9	INV. A45F5/02 A45F3/14
X	----- JP 2005 342436 A (OLYMPUS CORP) 15 December 2005 (2005-12-15) * figures 5,6 *	1,2,5-9	
A	----- US 6 029 871 A (PARK SUNG-SUN) 29 February 2000 (2000-02-29) * figures 3, 5-7 * -----	3	
TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)			
A45F			
The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.			
<b>INCOMPLETE SEARCH</b>			
The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC so that only a partial search (R.62a, 63) has been carried out.			
Claims searched completely :			
Claims searched incompletely :			
Claims not searched :			
Reason for the limitation of the search: see sheet C			
Place of search <b>The Hague</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>30 January 2017</b>	Examiner <b>Witkowska-Piela, A</b>
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone		E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date	
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category		D : document cited in the application	
A : technological background		L : document cited for other reasons	
O : non-written disclosure		.....	
P : intermediate document		& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

Claim(s) completely searchable:  
1-9

Claim(s) not searched:  
10-15

Reason for the limitation of the search:

Claims 1 , 10 and 13 have been drafted as separate independent claims .

Under Article 84 in combination with Rule 43(2) EPC, an application may contain more than one independent claim in a particular category only if the subject-matter claimed falls within one or more of the exceptional situations set out in paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of Rule 43(2) EPC. This is, however, not the case in the present application because the subject-matter of the application (claims 1, 10 and 13) does not involve a plurality of interrelated products (Rule 43(2)(a) EPC) or different uses of a product or apparatus (Rule 43(2)(b) EPC) or alternative solutions to a particular problem, where it is inappropriate to cover these alternatives by a single claim (Rule 43(2)(c) EPC).

In reply to the invitation to indicate the claims on which the search is to be based, the applicant indicated in his letter dated 25 January 2017 that the European search should be conducted on the basis of independent claim 1 and its depending claims .

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 09 82 8119

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

30-01-2017

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6698631	B1	02-03-2004	NONE	
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JP 2005342436	A	15-12-2005	NONE	
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US 6029871	A	29-02-2000	CN 1204899 A	13-01-1999
			JP H1174654 A	16-03-1999
			US 6029871 A	29-02-2000
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